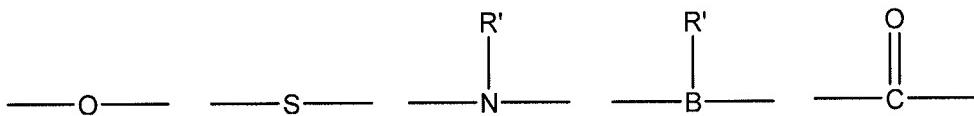


REMARKS

Amendment summary

Claim 2 is amended to recite that D is selected from the group consisting of vinylene group, acetylene group, an arylene group, a divalent heterocyclic group, bonding unit shown below, or a combination thereof:



where R' represents alkyl group, aryl group, aryl alkyl group, aryl alkenyl group, aryl alkynyl group, or a monovalent heterocyclic group. Support for this amendment may be found, e.g., at page 18, lines 6-12 of the present specification.

Claim 2 is further amended to recite the arylene group and the divalent heterocyclic group. Support for this amendment may be found, e.g., at page 9, line 2 to page 10, line 8 of the present specification.

Claims 11, 12, 15, and 18 are amended to correct their format.

No new matter is added by this Amendment, and Applicants respectfully submit that entry of this Amendment is proper.

Status of the claims

Claims 7-9 stand objected to for being in improper form. Claims 2 and 4-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lo et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0116622) (hereinafter “Lo”).

Response to objection to Claims 7-9

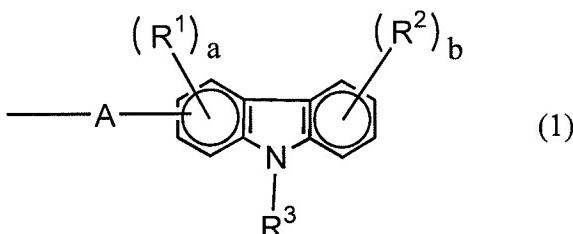
In response to the Examiner's objection to Claims 7-9, Applicant notes that the previous version of the claims mistakenly did not incorporate the previous amendment to the claims which the Examiner noted had corrected this issue. Accordingly, the present Amendment reflects the correct form of Claims 7-9, which are not improperly dependent.

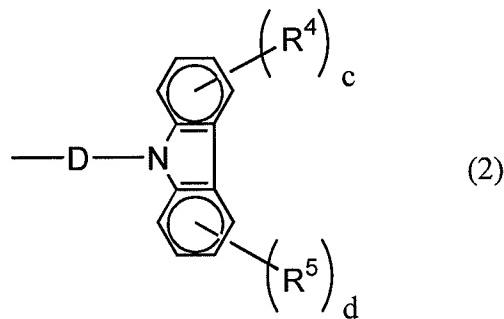
Applicants respectfully submit that the objection has been rendered moot.

Response to rejection of Claims 2 and 4-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 based on Lo

Claims 2 and 4-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lo. Applicants respectfully submit that the presently claimed invention is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Lo.

Claim 2 recites that the arylene group comprises a substituent selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, alkyl group, alkoxy group, alkylthio group, alkylamino group, alkyl silyl group, aryl group, aryloxy group, arylthio group, aryl amino group, arylsilyl group, arylalkyl group, arylalkoxy group, arylalkylthio group, arylalkylamino group, arylalkylsilyl group, acyl group, acyloxy group, imino group, amide group, arylalkenyl group, arylalkynyl group, cyano group, monovalent heterocyclic group, a group represented by formula (1), and a group represented by formula (2):

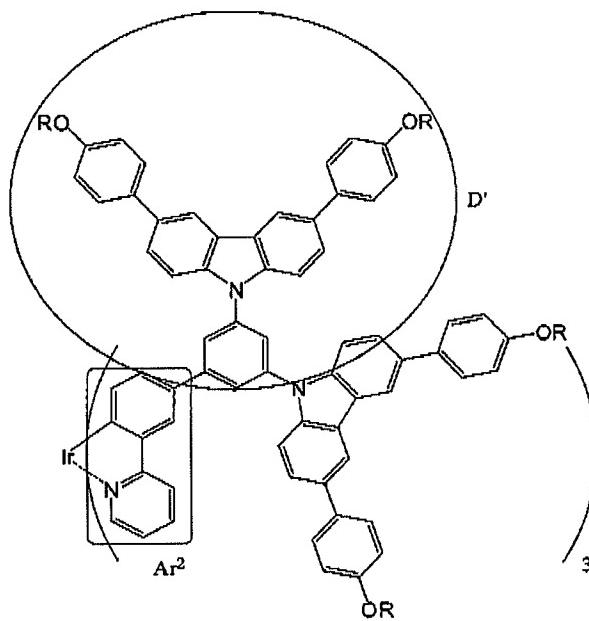




Claim 2 recites the definitions of the elements in the above formulae.

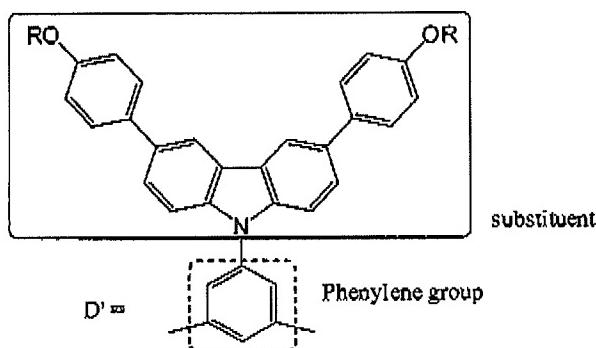
Applicant respectfully submits that Lo does not anticipate the presently claimed invention because the iridium complex in Lo does not correspond to the presently recited formula. The Office Action cites formula 7 in Figure 4 and Example 12 in Lo as allegedly being anticipatory. However, Applicants note that these passages in Lo do not anticipate the presently claimed invention.

In formula 7 in Figure 4, Lo discloses the following iridium compound:



In Example 12 of Lo, R in the above formula is revealed to be 2-ethylhexyl.

The ligand in the complex described in Lo roughly corresponds to present formula (5), except that a phenylene group with one substituent (denoted D' in the following formula, and corresponding to the presently recited D) is represented by the following formula:



Applicants respectfully submit that the substituent disclosed in Lo does not anticipate or render obvious the presently claimed invention. In particular, it is clear that the substituent on the phenylene group of D' above does not anticipate or render obvious the presently claimed invention.

Applicants further note that the substituent in Lo does not anticipate or render obvious the presently recited formula (2) because the substituent in Lo does not contain a conjugated divalent group (e.g., the presently recited D).

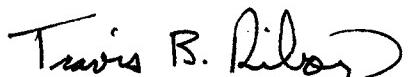
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of this § 102(e) rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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